

CHAPTER NO. 237**SENATE BILL NO. 1676****By McNally, Curtis S. Person, Jr.****Substituted for: House Bill No. 1452****By McMillan, West, Todd, Kent, Coleman**

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 5, Part 1, relative to the practice of dentistry.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-5-108(a)(1), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(1) Diagnoses, prescribes for or treats any disease, pain, deformity, deficiency, injury, disorder, and condition of the oral cavity, maxillofacial area, and the adjacent and associated structures and their impact on the human body. Such diagnosis and treatment may include the use of a complete or limited physical evaluation of patients by a board eligible or board certified oral and maxillofacial surgeon or a resident in an approved oral and maxillofacial surgery program practicing in a hospital setting.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-5-108(a)(5), is amended by inserting the words "and maxillofacial" between the word "oral" and the word "surgery".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-5-108(a)(13), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(13) Uses the words, "Dentist," "Dental Surgeon," "Oral Surgeon," "Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon," or letters "D.D.S.," "D.M.D.," or any other words, letters, title, or descriptive matter which in any way represents the person as being able to diagnose, treat, prescribe, or operate for any disease, pain, deformity, deficiency, injury, disorder, and condition of the oral cavity, maxillofacial area, and the adjacent and associated structures, and their impact on the human body;

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-5-108, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection (a) and by redesignating the subsequent subsections including those subsections amended in Section 1 through Section 3 of this act accordingly:

(a) Dentistry is defined as the evaluation, diagnosis, prevention, and/or treatment (nonsurgical, surgical, or related procedures) of diseases, disorders and/or conditions of the oral cavity, maxillofacial area, and/or the adjacent and associated structures and their impact on the human body, provided by a dentist, within the scope of such dentist's education, training, and experience, in accordance with the ethics of the profession and applicable law.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-5-112(a), is amended by deleting items (1) through (8) in their entirety and by substituting instead the following:

- (1) Dental public health;
- (2) Endodontics;
- (3) Oral and maxillofacial pathology;
- (4) Oral and maxillofacial surgery;
- (5) Orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics;
- (6) Pediatric dentistry;
- (7) Periodontics;
- (8) Prosthodontics;
- (9) Oral and maxillofacial radiology; and


(10) Any other branch of dentistry hereafter recognized as a specialty by the American Dental Association and by the board.

Oral and maxillofacial surgeons are held to the same standard of care as physicians licensed under Title 63, Chapters 6 or 9.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 12, 2003


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 2nd day of June 2003


PHIL BREDESEN, GOVERNOR